(b) the steps taken by the Central Government to prevent and unearth spurious drugs in inter-State commerce?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPRADE): (a) and b) Under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940, the State Governments are responsible for exercising control over drugs manufactured, sold and distributed in the country through their State Drug Control Organisations.

Whenever reports of spurious drugs moving in inter-state commerce, are received by the Central Drugs Control Organisation, raids are conducted either independently or jointly with the State Officers with the assistance of the Police to unearth such rackets and further action is taken after thorough investigation of the case.

Report of WHO as Drugs control in India

1571. DR. SHRIMATI SAROJINI MAHISHI:

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:

SHRI JAGESH DESAI:

CHOWDHURY RAM SEWAK:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the WHO consultant (Drugs) has submitted his report on Drug Control enforcement and drug testing facilities in India to the Government of India;

(b) if so, what are the recommendations made in the Report;

(c) how do they compare with the recommendations of the Lentin Commission; and

(d) what action has been taken on the report of the WHO Consultant (Drugs)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The summary of important recommendations made by the Consultant is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Lentin Commission was a legal Commission of enquiry appointed by Maharashtra Government to enquire into the circumstances that led to deaths in J.J. Hospital in Bombay whereas recommendations made by the WHO Consultant were more general in nature.

(d) The recommendations made by the Consultant are under examination to consider those required to be sent to the State Licensing Authorities for taking appropriate action.

Statement

Summary of important recommendations

1. To make available updated copies of Drugs & Cosmetics Act and Rules.

2. To compile the recommendations of Drugs Consultative Committee in a booklet form.

3. To finalise amendment of Rules regarding qualifications of State Licensing Authority.

4. To augment the testing facilities at State laboratories and also testing of Sera and vaccines.

5. To review functioning of approved private testing laboratories.

6. To have a computer cell in the Central Drug Control Organisation.

7. To streamline the functioning of State Drug Control Organisations for uniform enforcement of Rules.

8. To streamline the purchase of drugs by hospitals and other Government agencies.

9. To make use of pharmaceutical associations for effective enforcement of drug rules.

10. Central Government should convene Drug Conferences at regular intervals.

11. To provide testing facilities for drugs in North Eastern States.

12. Specific recommendations have been made for enforcement of drug laws in different States.

Sharing of Ganga Waters with Bangladesh

1572. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a bilateral dialogue between the Prime Minister and Bangladesh President in September last;

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks;

(c) whether the agreement on the sharing of the Ganga Water of 1985, will be further extended; and

(d) if not, the subsequent steps proposed to be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d) During the visit of the President of Bangladesh to India in September, 1988, a task force comprising experts of India and Bangladesh has been set up to study the Ganga and Brahmaputra Waters jointly for flood management and water flow thereof.

Insat-1C Impact on Communication System

1573. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the impact of partial failure of the new satellites INSAT-1C on the Communication System in the country; and

(b) what alternatives are being developed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) INSAT-IC satellite was planned to have 12 C-band transponders. After the power bus anomaly, it is now operating with 6 C-band transponders. Together with INSAT-1B, we have thus 18 C-band transponders for providing services. The launch of INSAT-1 D is being scheduled for April/May 1989, before the end-of-life of IB, thus providing continued availability of 18 C-band transponders. In addition two leased transponders from INTELSAT are available. Parallely, possibility of leasing a few more transponders is being explored.

Pending cases in High Courts

1574. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the cases at present pending before various High Courts for over 15 years, 10 years, 5 years and 3 years; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to expedite these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Recommendations for reducing arrears, on the basis of a Report by a Committee of three Chief Justices, have been sent to all the High Courts. The strength of High Court Judges has been increased from 351 in March 1977 to 444 as on 1-11-88. A proposal to create 88 more posts of High Court Judges has also been agreed to.

Shifting of I.R.E. Plant

1575. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great resentment and discontent among the employees of the Indian Rare Earths Limited Thorium Nitrate Plant because of the move to shift the plant from Trombay (Bombay) to Orissa;